IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3738 370/B 320000 6-11-0

In re Patent Application of

YACCARINO III

Serial No.: 09/503,166

Filed: February 14, 2000

COMPOUND BONE STRUCTURE: For:

OF ALLOGRAFT TISSUE WITH

THREADED FASTENERS

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

EXAMINER PHAN

Group Art Unit 3738



<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In response to the outstanding Office Action of December 5, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13-28 and 33-37 without prejudice, leaving claims 1-12 and 29-32 in the case.

REMARKS

Applicant traverses the rejections of claims 1-12 and 29-32 and 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of Paul et al. Patent Number 6,258,125 combined with Reed Patent Number 5,968,047. Claims 13-28 and 33-37 have been withdrawn from consideration.

United States Patent Number 6,258,125 to Paul et al. is assigned to Synthes Corporation, a marketing partner of the Assignee, Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation of the present invention. Both Paul and Yaccarino work together on specific projects and have knowledge of each others work in this area. A continuation application of the Paul et al. '125 patent (Exhibit A) has added Joseph